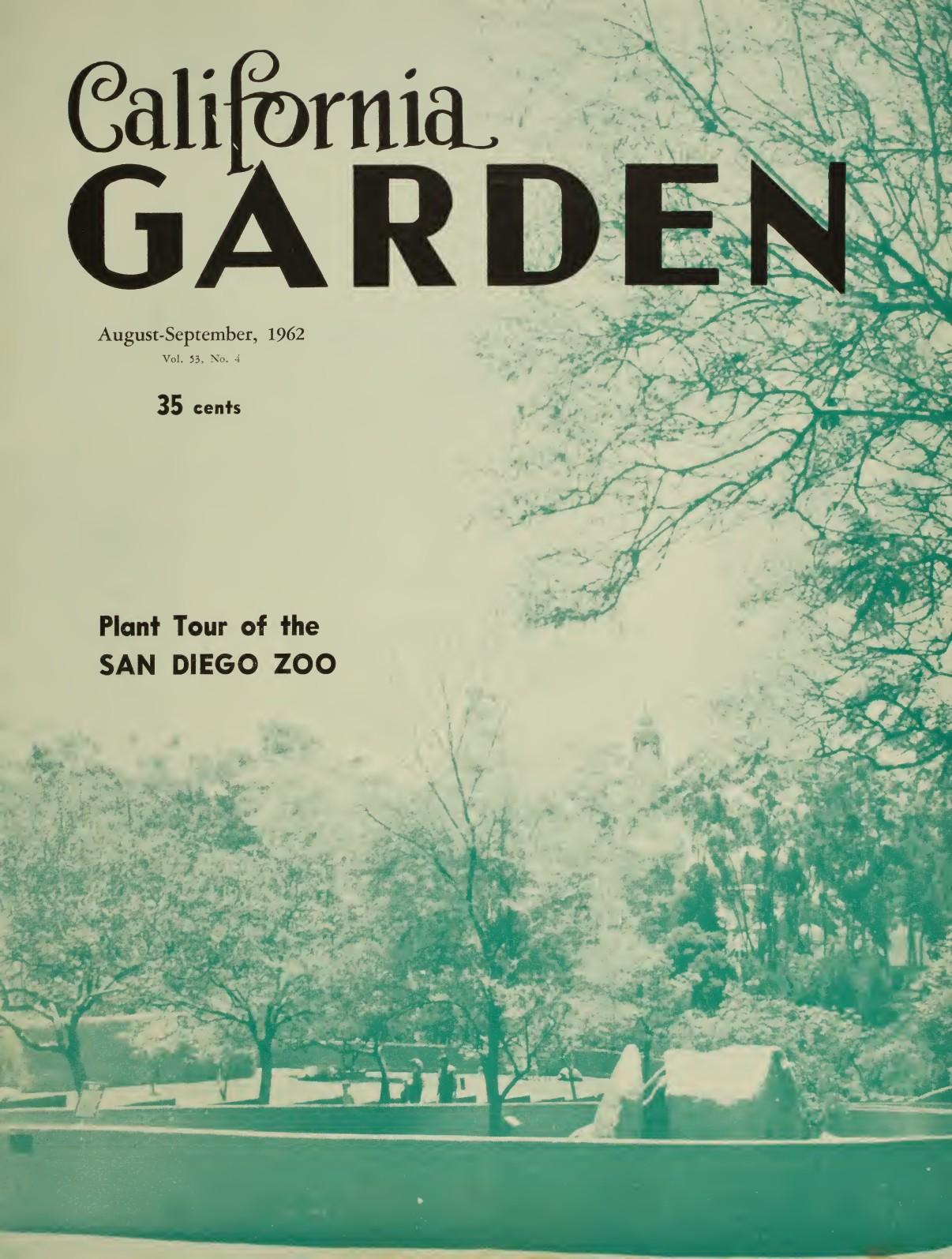


California GARDEN



August-September, 1962

Vol. 53, No. 4

35 cents

**Plant Tour of the
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Continued on page 4

CALIFORNIA GARDEN

There are plenty of things to get mad about, as usual. But this is summer, and controversial things seem pale and oddly remote against the demanding fire of oleander blooms and the fragrance of night-blooming jasmine. Summer, let's face it, is the doldrums.

If you're full of fight, of course, you can find antagonists galore in the garden. "I'm going to have a blue garden this year if it kills me," one lady remarked recently. And kill her it might.

With the searing suns and drying winds of August and September ahead, it takes courage to contemplate any project more demanding than changing into a bathing suit. Heat and wind are only the obvious foes. The insidious, undercover opponents, whispering behind the gardener's back, working in the dark of night, are the ones that will strip the green from the leaves, twist the flower into some grotesque caricature of the expected beauty, and sour the honey in the gardener's heart.

But then the lady may be a real gardener. She may not achieve her blue garden this year, but kill her it won't. Hope and expectation, more powerful for another honing against reality, will rise again, unasked, almost unwanted, like the September bloom of amaryllis. There is a pulse in the earth that mocks frustration; a pull like the moon on the sea. The gardener feels it, and tries again.

* * *

At least one downtown store is offering for sale a new form of tranquilizer: small, highly polished stones, with a convenient depression for the thumb, to be carried in the pocket and rubbed when the need arises. Packed in elaborate cases, they are another one of those gifts, like mink tooth brushes, for the person who has everything. These rocks sell (and sell they do, according to the clerk, though as he pointed out, you can get the same results by rubbing a coin) for a princely \$5.

The "feelie" is not a new phenomenon, though marketing them probably is. Grandpa often carried a pebble or a piece of wood that he had worn smooth by constant caresses. (Some thinkers will even tell you that if he had applied the same persistence to smoothing down grandma, the world

would be a better place today.) The Captain in *Caine Mutiny* weathered some of his storms with the aid of a few steel ball-bearings, Navy issue, no doubt. His habit, since it turned out to be a symptom of severe mental disturbance, is not recommended. With this evidence in hand, Henry Adams or D. H. Lawrence could probably develop a case against over-mechanization, but I'm not going to try. It's summer, remember.

No, and I'm having none of those prefab tension-reducers, either. I'll stomp snails instead. And advise my friends who have everything, including the need for tranquilizers, to do likewise.

* * *

Vacation Village, Alice's new Wonderland in Mission Bay ("Look," said the Mad Hatter, "the roofs are shaped like parasols." "Impractical," the White Knight said stiffly. "Enchanting," whispered Alice.), is the second Mission Bay hotel, after Isla-landia, to prefer pines over palms. Harriett Wimmer's design for Isla-landia's landscaping is simple almost to the point of austerity. Vacation Village, on the other hand, offers richness and variety in plant materials to keep pace with the fanciful structures and such pixilated accessories as the lofty wrought iron sculpture which has become its trademark among commuters crossing the Bay.

The consulting landscape architects, Wesley Connor, who fills the same role for the National Park Service at Yosemite, and San Diego's Roland S. Hoyt, used the well-established acacias and eucalypti, planted by the city when the island was Tierra del Fuego, as the basis for their plan. Pines, the most prominent addition throughout the grounds, eventually will provide a heavily wooded effect that even the White Knight can approve.

Incidentally, the palms for Ocean House, on the east side of the bay, had to be imported from Texas. The Village's pines came down from Julian.

* * *

Our mild-mannered magazine continues to get around. Buena Park Greenhouses, of Brea, California, has ordered a thousand reprints of Anne Hanna's article, "The Lure of Bromeliads," from our June-July issue.

George La Pointe

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1962
VOL. 53, NO. 4

COVER—An impressionistic view of Balboa Park picks up the California Tower in the distance, jacaranda trees overhead. The monitor lizard pits, foreground, and giant tortoise enclosure, left, place you squarely on Reptile Mesa in the San Diego Zoo. Photograph: Thos. L. Crist.

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CALENDAR

August 4-5

San Diego County Dahlia Society
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August 11-19

Annual Weed Show. Julian Town
Hall, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Sponsored
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September 4 & 18

Flower Arrangement Workshop.
Mrs. Arthur J. Mitchell, instructor.
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September 24

Flower Arrangement Class. Mrs. J.
R. Kirkpatrick, instructor. Floral
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September 25-28

National Council of State Garden
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FUN MAIL

Whether it's fan or pan, it's fun
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Until I saw a copy of your magazine
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subscribe to it. I am enclosing a check for
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RICHARD L. HATHAWAY
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I'm reading your magazine with much in-
terest. Do you know where I could find a
plant of *Crossandra undulatifolia*? I'm try-
ing to raise it from seed, but want a plant.

MRS. WILLIAM F. ATKINSON
Three Arch Bay
South Laguna, California

Dahlia Show Time

D AHLIA show time for the entire United States starts in San Diego each year. Members of the San Diego Dahlia Society say that their annual show is not only the first but also one of the largest.

The show here is held on the first weekend in August—August 4 and 5 this year—two weeks earlier than the next one, usually at Inglewood. After that, there are several shows each week all over the country until mid-October. All are conducted under rules and standards set up by the American Dahlia Society.

Many of the top winners at the other exhibitions originated here in San Diego County, and won their first ADS awards on the show tables in the Conference Building, Balboa Park. Those national and world winners were developed by R. Paul Comstock of Solana Beach.

Among them are a large white, named Lula Pattie, which swept most of the top awards all over the country last year; a yellow giant called Art Linkletter, a strong contender for largest of show, and the smaller, beautiful formal, First Lady, which has been one of the top best-in-show dahlias all over the world for the last four years. Among seedlings to be shown this year for the first time will be Comstock's newest large white, named Le Cigne.

Many new introductions from other famous growers also will be on display in the Conference Building show, as will be the old stand-bys which home gardeners and dahlia specialists alike have learned to love, and plant year after year.

The San Diego show always has all the types, sizes and colors represented on its exhibit tables and in the many arrangements. Arthur Harris, dahlia society president, says preparations have been made for more entries this year than last, when there were 987, and more than 3000 flowers.

Innovations for the show this year include an arrangement class for men only, a special specimen bloom class in which the public will select the winner—"The People's Choice"—and an overtime show period on the first night for photographers only.



FLOWER MELONS

WHAT next? Even a watermelon gets into the flower-arranging act.

The two halves of a melon provide the inspiration for two different and attractive table decorations for backyard barbecue, porch or patio parties. And what could be more appropriate than summer flowers for summertime entertaining?

The new foam flower holders make these unusual arrangements possible. For the rear half, press a fully-saturated foam flower holder into a 7-ounce tuna fish can. (Cut a small notch in the foam to simplify watering). Scoop out a hole in one end of the melon half, large enough to hold the tuna can firmly in place. Now, arrange a spray of white or red geraniums (or any other summer flowers of your choice) by inserting the stems into the foam at any angle. The holder gives firm support. Permit a few of the flowers to extend over the edges of the melon to enhance the overall effect.

For the front half, three one to two-ounce glasses are used as containers for the foam holders. First, thoroughly saturate the holders. Then, cut them so that the pieces fit into the glasses. Scoop out three areas in the melon half and place the glasses into the depressions. Now, insert white or red geraniums (or other summer flowers) into the exposed foam. As a final decorative touch, insert tiny red tapers around the rim of the melon.

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Portland's Rose Week

By Helen D. Carswell

PORTLAND Rose Society's 74th Annual Rose Show, staged in the Sheraton-Portland Grand Ballroom in June, shared attention with the long list of events planned for Rose Festival Week. White-capped sailors from U. S. and Canadian warships thronged the "Fun Carnival" across the street; the city was packed with travelers either going to or returning from the Seattle World's Fair; and everyone was visiting the Portland Zoo to see "Pucky," the first elephant baby to be born in America in over 40 years.

Our group of rose pals from Southern California made several stops on the way to Portland. In the Feather River area, wildflowers, especially the wild azaleas, were at the height of their season. Once this river is dammed to bring water to Southern California, these beauties of nature may not be the same. Mount Lassen Volcanic National Park was also one of our stops. Here at an elevation of over 8000 feet, we photographed the snow plant (*Sarcodes sanguinea*), a scarlet miracle that springs from the earth as the snows recede. Considered a fungus, the plant resembles an asparagus stalk of glowing, vibrant crimson.

We checked in at the hotel in Portland on the afternoon before the show. Rose show committees seem to have some of the same problems the world over, and the "City of Roses" had its worries, too. Predictions were that there would hardly be enough roses to cover the tables. Spring was late, cold and wet, with little sunshine.

Where the more than 2500 entries came from the following morning is another of those rose mysteries that only the initiated can believe, for we have seen it happen so often before. This type of season, favoring varieties that thrive best in cool weather, was ideal for the occasion, since the schedule included a special class for roses bearing the McGredy name, honoring

Sam McGredy of North Ireland, the distinguished guest of the show.

Judges assigned to the special class, "One Rose Bearing the McGredy Name," were instructed that they could judge according to McGredy Rules, and Mr. McGredy led the team. The award, donated by Fred Edmunds, a commercial rose grower, went to a specimen of McGredy's Yellow. The exhibitor, Charles F. Leon, a Royal Knight of Rosaria, and a Portland Rose Society member, is editor of "Roses Are Fun," the official yearbook of the Society.

Stopping at the hotel where the rose show was held gave us an opportunity to spend many hours studying the entries. The display of named varieties from Portland International Rose-Test Garden, at Washington Park, included many new roses, as well as old favorites and unusual types. I was fascinated with the great long sheaves of the shrub rose, Nevada (Pedro Dot, '27), said to be a moyessi hybrid. Many of its single blooms, pure white splashed with crimson, with hearts of gold, measured over 5 inches across. The remarkable thing about them was the number of open blooms in prime condition, without any withered stamens, indicating that the plant must have come to life in a tremendous spring surge. In my garden it blooms over a long period, a few blossoms at a time, and lacks that extra oomph that the dormancy of cooler weather gives.

Not being an arranger, but a great admirer of the art, it is pure pleasure for me to linger in the arrangement classes of a show. If I were picking a winner it would have gone to a blue-ribbon entry in the advanced amateur division entitled "First Lady—Jacqueline Kennedy—USA." This airy, graceful "Victorian" seemed to capture Mrs. Kennedy's love of history and antiques.

NO rosarian trip to Portland is complete without a visit to the International Rose-Test Garden previously mentioned. It was almost 50 years ago that the City of Portland invited the world's growers to enter their new rose seedlings there. Most of the important roses of our day have had their start in this test garden. Any rose lover is made welcome by the curator, Rudie Kalmbach.

My trip was rounded out with an afternoon in the Portland Public Library, which owns some of the rarest and most coveted rose books in the world. Many were displayed in lighted cases during Rose Festival Week.

Oh, yes. I went to see "Pucky," too.

Commentary

A Nurseryman's Thoughts

By Peter E. Girard, Sr.

TREES and shrubs are lovely things—I can make them handsome and beautiful or I can make them ugly; I can make them tall, short, broad or plump; I can make them healthy or I can make them ill; I can mend their broken limbs; I can carry them like little children, or climb their full-grown trunks; I can make them stand at attention in straight rows or I can group them with other species; I can mass them into forests or I can make them guards along the highways; I can place them on banks to prevent soil erosion, or cover fields for animal protection; I can grow them in pots or boxes; I can twist their branches and bend their trunks; I control their diet, give them drink when thirsty and tile to remove excess moisture from their roots to prevent drowning; I sow their seeds and grow their young; I use their pollen to change color and feature; I can grow them to perfection so that gardeners will not reject them. I am master of my plants!

When it comes time to place my plants for adoption I wonder—will man give them his best of care or will he let them become brown and then bare? Will he treat them for their ills, protect them from their enemies, give them water when they are thirsty? Or will he forget and let them die? Will he notice when they are pale with hunger or excess moisture, when snow and ice have bent their branches—or will he wait until their limbs are broken? Will he mend their limbs or let them hang in shame? Will he let weeds grow tall and needles fall? Will he notice the pests attacking or will he spray and keep them away? Will he keep his plants pruned and well-groomed and be proud to say, "I am master of my plants"?

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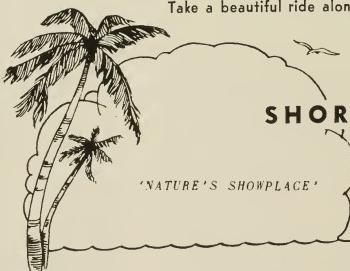
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California Garden

August-September, 1962

Plants from Around the World in the SAN DIEGO ZOO

• The San Diego Zoo, host to more than 2 million visitors each year, means many things to a great many people.

Animals, of course. It has the largest wild animal collection in the world.

Setting, a close second. The rugged, wooded canyons and the sweeping plateaus lend a wild charm—like being in a jungle or on the moors—to the ingenious display of animal life.

And landscaping. Perhaps the planting in the Zoo means more, contributes more to people's enjoyment than they generally realize. The exclamation most frequently overheard throughout the grounds is some variation of "Isn't it beautiful!"

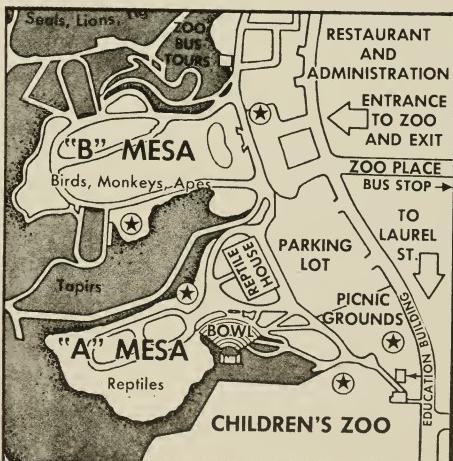
The San Diego Zoological Garden takes all parts of its official name seriously. A garden it is—and what a garden! Nearly every tree or flower that adds to the illusion of jungle or moor has been selected for effect, planted and cultivated. Since the day in 1916 when Dr. Harry Wegeforth set out to create, not only a collection of animals, but a park-like setting worthy of San Diego's climate, the work of transforming bare soil to lush greenery has never ceased.

Part of the Doctor's idea was to grow provisions for his animals, and even today the Zoo's vegetation contributes something to their diets. The San Diego Zoo can have Koalas, for instance, because it can grow the fresh eucalyptus leaves the animals must have. But more important, his idea was to use plants to enhance the setting. Contrast the Zoo grounds with the Florida Street canyon just over the ridge to the east to see how well the idea has succeeded.

First and foremost, the Zoo is an educational institution. What lessons does it offer in the field of

plants? That depends, as with the animals, on the visitor's interests. Plant identification, exposures, planting combinations, landscape design, park management are a few of the possibilities. In this issue and the next, CALIFORNIA GARDEN presents two tours of this great public garden to let you sample its delights and take your pick of its lessons.

"Unpampered, natural growth," in the words of Timothy Aller, supervising gardener, is the goal of the Zoo's gardening staff. As you view the result, either on the grounds or at home in your favorite reading chair, we think you will agree that this is education of the most painless sort. And like millions of previous visitors, you are apt to find yourself exclaiming, "It's beautiful, isn't it?"





San Diego Zoo Photo—R. Van Nostrand

Chauncy I. Jerabek, the San Diego Tree Man, leads you on a plant tour of San Diego's Zoological Garden. From the Zoo entrance, through the shaded Picnic Grounds and the charming Children's Zoo, around the Reptile Mesa and back to the Flamingo Lagoon, you will discover the plants from around the world that make this a great garden.

THE attractive landscaping in front of the Zoo Administration building is dominated by four groups of palms with fan-type leaves. These trees with black, fibrous trunks are (1) Windmill Palms (*Trachycarpus fortunei*) from central and eastern China. Slow to moderate growers, they reach a height of 15 to 30 feet. Children sometimes call them Sore-throat palms because of the gauzy wrappings on the trunks.

Another major element is the dense tree at the left corner as you face the building. It is (2) Macadamia (*Macadamia ternifolia*), a particularly fine specimen of the species from Queensland and New South Wales which produces the edible nut.

As you approach the entrance you will notice a smaller fan palm with bluish-green leaves planted at each side of the broad walk. This (3) Dwarf Fan Palm (*Chamaerops humilis*) is the only palm native to Europe.

Probably the first thing that will catch your gardener's eye as you pass through the turnstile is the (4) Giant Honeysuckle vine (*Lonicera hildebrandiana*) clambering up the brick pedestal of the clock. In spring this vigorous, heat-loving vine produces a profusion of yellow and white blooms among its large glossy leaves.

Ignore temporarily the inviting tropical plantings of the Flamingo Lagoon in front of you and turn left to follow

the twin semicircular beds at the back of the Administration building. The three tall palms near the north end of the first bed are (5) Queen Palms or *Cocos plumosa* (*Arecastrum romanzoffianum*). These South American natives are familiar to most Southern Californians as street trees. The shorter feather-leaved palm is (6) Kentia or Sentry Palm (*Howea forsteriana*) from the Lord Howe Islands, used both as an indoor and outdoor plant. The grayish-white border plant along the north edge of the curving bed is (7) Cushion Bush (*Calocephalus brownii*) from Australia. When given a fairly dry, well-drained location, this plant builds up silvery mounds of foliage which are covered with yellow blooms in mid-summer.

Life-size replicas of Mbongo, the male mountain gorilla, and Ngagi, the female, stand in the niche where the semicircular plantings meet. To the rear of Mbongo is a (8) Pygmy Date Palm (*Phoenix roebelini*), a native of Burma and Cochin China, with lacy fronds. It is slow-growing to 4-8 feet with a 3-6 foot spread. At Ngagi's right is a palm-like plant known as (9) Cabbage or Grass Palm (*Cordyline australis*). Its bare trunk leads to multiple tufts of sword-like leaves and yucca-like flowers in summer. Completing this group are two (10) *Furcraea roezlii*, handsome, seldom-seen succulents from Mexico. Their pale green, broad, blade-shaped leaves form a dense rosette which spreads to the ground. The plants flower once, unpredictably, then die.

Two types of Bird-of-Paradise, both from tropical Africa, have been used in this second bed. To the rear is the (11) Giant Bird (*Strelitzia nicolai*), with rough, curving trunk and immense white and blue flowers nested at the base of the leaves. In the foreground is the more familiar (12) *S. reginae*, with numerous, long-stemmed bluish-green leaves. Orange flowers with blue tongues rise above the clump.

At the south end of the semicircle, (13) Heavenly Bamboo (*Nandina domestica*) a Chinese native, is planted around the telephone stands. People in north China call the plant Tein-chok or Sacred Bamboo. Its fern-like foli-

age, with a color range from pale green to brilliant red, white flowers in clusters, and red berries have made it one of the most useful and popular landscaping plants.

The low, sturdy shrubs with white and green variegated foliage and olive-green stems are (14) Italian Buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus argenteo-variegata*), a hybrid form of the California native Coffeeberry. This plant becomes a large shrub or small tree. It produces tiny yellow flowers in clusters, followed by bluish-black berries. The final plants in this section are two varieties of the popular New Zealand flax, both stemless plants with strap-like leaves, producing dark red to yellowish-brown flowers on long stalks in spring. (15) Bronze Flax (*Phormium tenax rubrum*) is copper-bronze in color. (16) Variegated Flax (*P. t. variegatum*) has white leaves margined with green.

As you walk southward, you will notice a group of checking lockers with a small tree at each end. To the left is a New Zealand native called (17) "Howpara" (*Pseudopanax lessoni*). The thick, shiny, deep green, toothed leaves have three to five leaflets. To the right is (18) Horoeka or Lancewood (*Pseudopanax crassifolius* var. *trifoliolatus*), with three leaflets making up its thicker, leathery, deeply serrated leaves.

At the end of the building are two tall (19) Sugar Gums (*Eucalyptus cladocalyx*), one inside and one outside the brick wall. These Australian natives can reach a height of 150 feet. At the base of the wall are a dozen specimens of (20) Ghost Tree (*Hedera canariensis argenteo-variegata*), the unusual bush-type ivy with cream-colored markings on green leaves.

Along the west side of the rental booth a row of (21) Laurel Fig (*Ficus retusa*) has been used as a screen hedge. This is the tree in use as a street tree in downtown San Diego and Los Angeles. Immediately south of the rental booth building is a small Macadamia tree (2).

THE path you will take leads south past the Reptile House on the right towards the Picnic Area and the Children's Zoo. On your left is a chain link fence along the border of the parking lot, with a narrow shrubbery border between the fence and the walk. You will notice a pattern in the planting as you proceed southward: *Persea* alternating with *callistemon*, *melaleuca* and *metrosideros*, with numerous low shrubs as fillers, privet and eugenia being repeated most frequently.

Beginning at the south of the building, the first sizable plant in the border is (22) Weeping Bottle Brush (*Callistemon viminalis*), an Australian shrub or small tree with particular usefulness in Southern California because it tolerates poor soils and needs little water. This species has red flowers during most of the year.

Next are two lower-growing shrubs, (23) *Cotoneaster parneyi*, a small-leaved plant with graceful, arching branches and attractive red berries, and (24) California Privet (*Ligustrum ovalifolium*). This erect shrub, native to Japan, has glossy leaves and panicles of white flowers in spring.

Next is a small tree with leathery, evergreen foliage, inconspicuous flowers, and small avocado-like fruit about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long. This is (25) Miniature or Ornamental Avocado (*Persea indica*), native to the Azores, Madeira and Canary Islands, which you will see repeated throughout the length of this planting strip.

A few steps south is a group of (26) New Zealand Christmas trees (*Metrosideros tomentosa*), so named because in their southern hemisphere homeland they bloom at Christmas time. Here they are mid-summer bloomers, producing attractive cymes of brilliant scarlet flowers.

Leaves are olive-green above, with felted gray backs. This tree is exceptionally good for beach areas; it is slow growing in heavy soils.

Directly south, and almost hidden by the metrosideros, is a small (27) Cape Chestnut tree (*Calodendrum capense*). This South African native with fuzzy leaves is among the showiest of spring-flowering trees; it is somewhat touchy here even along the coast. It needs exceptional drainage and little irrigation after it becomes established. You will see a larger specimen later in the tour.

About thirty feet southward is a plant with stiff, sword-like leaves of rich green. This is (28) *Yucca elephantipes (gigantea)* from Mexico. It becomes tree-like, with multiple trunks reaching to 15 feet. Both in form and color, it fits well with contemporary architecture. Creamy-white, bell-shaped flowers come in clusters in late spring.

Opposite the entrance to the Reptile House, the soft-leaved plant with purple, tubular flowers is (29) Purple Tobacco Plant (*Iochroma tubulosum*), a Colombian native which belongs to the same family as the potato, tomato, egg plant, red pepper, tobacco and others of economic importance. It is a rank growing shrub to 6-8 feet, with scattered blooms throughout the warm seasons of the year.

Another thirty feet southward are three Australian natives. The tree with the white, flaky bark is (30) White Fleece tree (*Melaleuca genistifolia*). Next is (31) Silver Mountain Gum (*Eucalyptus pulverulenta*), with bluish, heart-shaped leaves set opposite on the stems. The shrubby plant with the prickly foliage is (32) Pincushion or Needle Bush (*Hakea suaveolens*).

Beyond the south end of the Reptile House, and almost hidden by a Purple Tobacco plant (29), is a small specimen of (33) Weeping Banyan (*Ficus benjamina*) planted against the fence. This Indian native is a small tree of weeping habit, with shiny, bright green leaves.

Opposite the road to "A" Mesa is a South African shrub with blue, phlox-like flowers; it is (34) Cape Leadwort (*Plumbago capensis*). Next is (35) Purpleleaf Plum (*Prunus cerasifera atropurpurea*, *P. pissardi*), a deciduous tree from southwest Asia, with deep purple leaves in spring which turn green as the season advances. Small, whitish-pink flowers appear in early spring as the leaves unfold.

The tropical tree with divided, leathery leaves and fruit resembling greenish apples is (36) White Sapote (*Casimiroa edulis*), from tropical America. It is rated as an excellent, though partly deciduous, patio tree. The edible part of the fruit, a white pulp with a delicate honey flavor, is a favorite of the proboscis monkeys. Below the Sapote tree is a contorted specimen of (37) Geraldton Waxflower (*Chamaelaucium ciliatum*), an airy, graceful shrub from Australia with needle-like foliage and waxy, pale pink flowers from winter into spring.

The next tree is (38) Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) from China and Japan. Its evergreen foliage is bold and leathery, 6-12 inches long, dark green above and hairy below. The tree makes moderate growth to about 15 feet with an equal spread. It bears edible fruit, a bright yellow-orange when ripe, which are mostly seeds, but make excellent jelly.

The last tree in this planting is (39) Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), a native of southeastern United States. An upright tree to 80 feet, it bears glossy, deep green leaves and fragrant white flowers up to 10 inches across. The spreading shrub beneath the magnolia is (40) *Lantana camara*, a tropical American native with pink and yellow pin-cushion flowers.



San Diego Zoo Photos



A large Coral tree (83) shades the low pens where children may sit down for a visit with guinea pigs and rabbits in the Children's Zoo. This deciduous tree produces clusters of scarlet flowers (see close-up at left) in May and June.

NOW, take a left turn into the picnic area. The trees used to shade the picnic tables are (41) Chinese Lantern or Chinese Flame tree (*Koelreuteria bipinnata*). Attractive, compound foliage and profuse fruit capsules, ranging in color from orange to red, in late summer and fall, make this an interesting deciduous tree for Southern California. It is a moderate grower to 20-40 feet with well-behaved roots, and without soil or pest problems.

Along the left or north fence which separates the picnic area from the parking lot, a row of rubber trees provides a sampling of the more than 600 species of *Ficus* distributed throughout the warmer regions of the world. I am not sure of the species of the first two, but the third is (42) *Ficus elastica*, from India and Malaya, the familiar indoor rubber plant. Fourth in the line, next to the large trash receptacle, is (43) *F. rubiginosa*, from Australia, with larger, more rounded leaves of lighter green. Number five, with twisted roots above ground, is (44) *F. benghalensis*, the Banyan from India. Sixth is *F. rubiginosa* (43) again, and seventh and eighth are (45) *F. macro-*

phylla, the Moreton Bay Fig, native to Queensland; this tree becomes huge with age, with great heaving roots above ground, as may be seen on the specimen in the Formal Garden behind the Natural History Museum. The last rubber tree in the row is (46) *F. nekbedu* (*F. utilis*), a deciduous tree native to tropical America.

Growing over the fence at the corner of the parking lot and Zoo Drive is a rambling Silver Moon rose with single yellow flowers. Between the picnic area and the fence, (47) Primrose Jasmine (*Jasminum mesnyi*) forms an informal hedge. This evergreen shrub from China grows in fountain form with many flexible green branches from the base. It produces lemon-yellow flowers in early spring. Spaced irregularly along the east boundary of the area are five (48) Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*). These are enormous, heavy-trunked, featherleaf palms.

At the northeast corner of the rest rooms is an attractive Australian shrub called (49) Island Bottle Brush (*Melaleuca nesophila*). Its open form shows off the spongy, whitish bark of the trunks. Small gray-green leaves provide good contrast for the numerous round mauve flowers in dense heads in early summer. This is another good shrub for coastal gardens.

As you complete the circuit of the picnic area you will notice along the roadway to your right a narrow planting strip with eight tall trees. These are (50) Brisbane Box (*Tristaniopsis conferta*), evergreen trees from Australia with glossy leaves and smooth, reddish brown bark. In summer they produce tiny white flowers like snowflakes. The underplanting here is lantana (40).

To your left is the entrance to the Children's Zoo, but before passing through the turnstile, pause for a visit with the two baby elephants, Ellie and Hatari. Since elephants will strip leaves from any plant they can reach with their trunks, the vegetation in the enclosure is simple: a Canary Island Date Palm (48), a (51) Mexican Fan Palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), and a (52) Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*) from Australia. All but the rough-trunked Canary Palm show evidence of being favorite scratching posts.

THE Children's Zoo, five years old this June, inherited some of its larger plantings from the Japanese Tea Garden which stood on the site for a quarter-century before World War II. The design of the zoo, the exhibits, and the Clark Children's Theater have been widely praised. The landscaping is equally worthy of note: it is functional as well as varied, unobtrusive but still decorative, and exceptionally well maintained considering the heavy usage it receives. Often the plantings are appropriate to the animals in the area.

As you pass through the gate you will notice on both sides of the entrance a plant with extra-large leaves. It is (53) Chinese Rice Paper Plant (*Tetrapanax papyriferus*), widely planted in home gardens for the bold, tropical effect of its leaves and its umbels of white flowers. Following the path to the left, you will find yourself face to face with the South American Squirrel Monkeys, relatives of Baker, the space monkey. Over your heads, growing from behind the yellow and white fiberglass fence, is a large specimen of (54) Pink Ball shrub (*Dombeya wallichii*), from East Africa and Madagascar, a member of the chocolate family. In spring, pendent pale pink balls the size of grapefruit hang against the nearly round, deep green leaves.

The willowy shrub repeated along the fence is (55) Italian Jasmine (*Jasminum humile*). It can be trained as a vine or shrub, even a standard. From late summer into



Thos. L. Crist

Mugho Pine (92) in Children's Zoo is unusually large.

fall, it bears clusters of purplish buds which open to fragrant bright yellow flowers.

To the left, beyond the entrance to the Children's Party area, is a planting of Madagascar Periwinkle (*Lochneria rosea*, *Vinca rosea*), a low, bushy perennial with charming, phlox-like, rosy-pink or white flowers against gleaming dark green leaves. Invaluable in the garden, it is usually treated as a bedding plant for hot, exposed situations; it does well in poor soils, and re-seeds freely.

To the rear of the Hyrax, the small African relative of the elephant, is a row of (56) Mirror Plant (*Coprosma baueri*), a New Zealand native named for the high gloss of its leaves. This excellent utility shrub will grow up to 10 feet tall with a 6 foot spread; it will stand salt winds.

The route continues left past the walk-through cage of finches. In front of the cage, (57) Prostrate Natal Plum (*Carissa grandiflora* 'Prostrate') is used as a ground cover. This thorny South African is popular for dark green leaves, single white flowers and dark red fruits.

At the entrance to the lath house, at the base of a tall eucalyptus tree, is a shrubby succulent known as (58) Pink Joy or Jade Plant (*Crassula portulacea*). At the right inside the lath house is the handsome tropical (59) Giant Evergreen Grape vine (*Tetrastigma vomerianum*), a native of Indo-China. The planting beds contain camellias, cymbidium orchids, ferns, tuberous begonias, fuchsias, philodendrons and other shade-loving plants. The curious gardener will explore to see how the zoo staff manages to grow these plants in the ground under eucalyptus trees.

At the right of the walk beyond the lath house are two tall (60) Fountain Palms (*Livistona australis*), one of the most graceful of the fan palms for a sheltered, humid spot. Behind the palms is another New Zealand Christmas tree (*Metrosideros*-26), with an underplanting of azaleas. To the left, at the entrance to the Turtle Grotto, is a small (61) Japanese Black Pine (*Pinus thunbergii*). This slow-growing pine is popular for dwarfing.

Coming into the sunlight beyond the Turtle Grotto, if you make a sharp right turn, you will see a (62) Toyon or California Holly (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), a shrub or

small tree native to San Diego County. This is a good native for the garden, since it will stand pruning and summer watering. At the left of this planting is (63) Karo Pittosporum (*Pittosporum crassifolium*), another excellent seashore plant. This New Zealand native has thick gray foliage and small, chocolate-colored flowers. Between the two shrubs is a small (64) Maidenhair Tree (*Ginkgo biloba*), a deciduous tree, native to China, with leaves resembling those of maidenhair fern in shape. It is an open, often picturesque tree, slow growing in San Diego. The leaves turn golden in fall before dropping. Only male trees should be planted, since the female produces flesh-covered nuts with a rancid odor. The final plant in this section is (65) Hall's Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica halliana*), the small-leaved vine on the fence at left. This vigorous grower has yellow and white tubular flowers in spring and summer.

Next to the purple Easter-egg-shaped house of the Burrowing Owls is a (66) Dragon tree (*Dracaena draco*), a member of the lily family with bulging trunk and gray-green, fleshy leaves. Behind the owls is a (67) Victorian Box tree (*Pittosporum undulatum*), an Australian native which makes a large shrub or small tree with broad leaves with wavy edges and creamy-white, sweet-smelling flowers. In the shade of the tree is a planting of (68) Shell Flower (*Alpinia speciosa*), an ornamental ginger from east Asia with reddish leaf sheaths and blossoms resembling white sea shells, tipped with red, hanging in clusters at the ends of the arching canes.

Hanging over a grape stake fence which forms the south border of this area, and sheltering the mouse family keeping house in a king-size loaf of bread, is (69) Sky Flower or Golden Dewdrop (*Duranta repens*). This is a fast-growing shrub to 15 feet with loose branches; blue flowers in early summer are followed by yellow berries. It stands heat well.

Planted in the center, in front of the Mouse House, is a (70) Sausage Tree (*Kigelia pinnata*), a tropical African native with stiff, rough, compound leaves. Attractive maroon flowers are followed by inedible gourd-shaped fruit, up to two feet long, which resemble large sausages.

Facing north from the Sausage Tree, you will see from right to left a (71) Jelly Palm (*Butia capitata*), with gray, feather-type fronds, a (72) St. John's Bread or Carob tree (*Ceratonia siliqua*), the popular street and garden tree with compound, dark green leaves and long, bean-like seed pods, and (73) Guadalupe Fan Palm (*Erythea edulis*), from Baja California. Also in this planting are a Mexican Fan Palm (51), Jasmine (55) and Sky Flower (69).

Continue right, past the boat-shaped enclosure housing the dog and cat families. Espaliered on the fence at right is pyracantha, alternating with (74) Ruby Tea plant (*Leptospermum scoparium* 'Ruby Glow'), the shrubby leptospermum from Australia and New Zealand with ruby-colored flowers. At the end of the triangle is a small (75) Frangipani. When its leaves have fallen, this tender West Indian native resembles a spineless cactus; its popularity is due to its pretty and intensely fragrant white flowers, used extensively for leis in Hawaii and the South Sea Islands.

If you can tear yourself away from the cage-ful of Spider Monkeys, notice the beautiful (76) Cup-of-Gold vine (*Solandra guttata*) over the walk-through bird cage containing quail, doves and parakeets. This vigorous Mexican vine has large cup-shaped golden flowers. Opposite the cage is a (77) Hollyhock or Primrose tree (*Lagunaria patersonii*), an Australian native with grayish-green leaves and small hibiscus-like flowers of pink or rose. To the

rear of the mynah birds is a tall Kentia palm (6) showing its drooping seed stems.

On the path again, at the end of the walk-through cage, is a planting against the fence containing the succulents (78) *Aloe arborescens frutescens* and (79) *Cotyledon orbiculata*. The aloe builds a tree-like form of spiny, gray-green rosettes. Cotyledon has paddle-shaped leaves from whitish to pale gray with red edges, and red flowers in summer. Both are South African natives.

At the left is a (80) Deodar Cedar (*Cedrus deodara*), native to India and Afghanistan, one of the true cedars of the world. It is covered densely with short, gray-green needles. Masking the fence continuing left to the Paddock gate is a planting of the shrub (81) Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), with a native range from southeast Europe to Persia. Its foliage is deep purple in spring. White spring flowers are followed by reddish-purple fruits. Next to the Paddock gate is (82) Diamond-leaved Pittosporum (*Pittosporum rhombifolium*), a shrub or small tree from Australia, with small, fragrant, white flowers in spring followed by clusters of orange berries against the dark green, diamond-shaped leaves.

Shading the corrals where children may sit down for a visit with a spotted hyena, guinea pigs and rabbits is a magnificent (83) Coral tree (*Erythrina corallodendrum*), native to tropical America. In May and June, when the tree is still leafless, cone-shaped clusters of brilliant red flowers appear at the ends of its branches.

If you have left the children home, you can now take the gate marked "Paddock Bypass," thereby avoiding the danger of letting goats and sheep and tortoises drive all thoughts of plants from your mind. Through the bypass gate you will see a rugged tree appropriately planted in the desert tortoise enclosure. The (84) Jerusalem Thorn or Palo Verde (*Parkinsonia aculeata*), native to the southwestern American desert, has small leaflets loosely spaced on graceful branches. Notable features are its wicked thorns and bright yellow flowers in early summer. To the right, between the enclosure and the fence, is a clump of cactus, *Platycopuntia* or *tuna*.

On the left along the high fence is a wisteria vine. At



Thos. L. Crist

Possibly the rarest plant in the Zoo is the four-trunked *Eucalyptus mortoniana* (127) near Wegeforth Bowl.

the base of the fence is a series of (85) Pyracantha or Firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea*), best sellers among berried shrubs for bush or espalier, alternating with (86) African Box (*Myrsine africana*), an adaptable foliage plant for sun or part shade. At the end of this section, at right, is a small tree marked "Parasol Tree from Brazil," about which nothing more is known.

The path now makes a sharp turn to the left. The plant against the fence is Hollyleaf Cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia*). You will now enter a walk-through cage containing pheasants and storks. To the left in the entry-way is a hedge of tall (87) Chinese Junipers (*Juniperus chinensis 'Reeves'*). To the right, between two of the junipers, is another Hakea (32).

In the stork pen are several Natal plums (57) and four specimens of (88) Rosedale Arborvitae (*Thuja orientalis 'Rosedale'*) with attractive blue-green foliage. Jasmine shrubs line the fence to the left.

Beyond the walk-through cage, over the fence at the rear of the drinking fountain, is (89) Snail Seed (*Cocculus laurifolius*), a graceful, arching plant which grows to 20-25 feet and is an excellent background shrub for a shady location. To the left is (90) Golden Striped Hedge Bamboo (*Bambusa multiplex 'Alphonse Karr'*) from China and Japan, a clump-type bamboo with yellow-and-green-striped stems. Several Cabbage Palms (9) are spaced in the planting behind the Toucan cage. Beyond the cage, on the same side, is a small (91) Willow Pittosporum (*Pittosporum philliplyraeoides*), a weeping-willow-like tree, slow-growing to 20 feet.

In the planting to the left as you approach the seal pool is a large specimen of (92) Mugho or Swiss Mountain Pine (*Pinus mugo*). This European native seldom grows taller than 4-5 feet. Beneath the pine are gardenias and



Thos. L. Crist

Tortuous Monkey Puzzle tree (110) suits its name.



San Diego Zoo Photo

On Reptile Mesa, giant tortoises laze beneath the Jacarandas (135). Jerusalem Thorn (84) at center rear.

camellias, and bordering the walk are (93) Chinese Holly (*Ilex cornuta*), a self-fertile holly which sets berries well in this climate. Leaves from different seedlings of this holly will show variations. To the left of the seal pool are two tall (94) Seaforthia or King Palms (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*), the one on the left underplanted with Sky Flower (69).

Leaning over the seal pool at the north end is (95) Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum*). This airy and delicate deciduous tree has deeply cut leaves which turn scarlet in fall. It is difficult to grow in this climate, needing protection from sun and drying winds; it also reacts unfavorably to the salts in our alkaline water. To the right is the deciduous (96) Siberian Elm (*Ulmus pumila*), with a low planting of holly, Natal plum and raphiolepis, and another Island Bottle Brush (49).

You may notice that foliage in this area looks somewhat the worse for ducks; you are in fact approaching the duck pond. The planting in the curve of the pond consists of a Magnolia tree (39), two (97) Compact Arborvitae (*Thuja orientalis chinensis*), and a border of Hakea (32) along the edge of the pond. Across the pond is an (98) Olive tree (*Olea europaea*).

To the left along the south fence are two Jelly Palms (70). Between the low benches, against the fence, is (99) Bottle tree or Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*), an upright, fast-growing tree from Australia with poplar-like leaves. Other Bottle trees are growing on the other side of the fence.

Continuing westward, you will see three rather slender specimens of (100) Yew Pine (*Podocarpus macrophyllus*), a Japanese native which is often used in the home garden for its columnar form and richly textured greenery. The rounded shrub next to them is (101) Japanese Pittosporum

(*Pittosporum tobira*), sometimes called Mockorange for its fragrant flowers. Surrounding the see-through fish bowl are three large Canary Palms (48).

Between the raccoon and gorilla moats, sheltering the small service building, is (102) *Myoporum laetum*, a new Zealand native with bright green leaves which are full of translucent oil glands. Tiny white flowers, spotted with purple, are followed by reddish purple fruit. Beneath the myoporum is a slender (103) Pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), a deciduous shrub from southern Europe and Asia, highly decorative for flowers, fruit, and fall foliage.

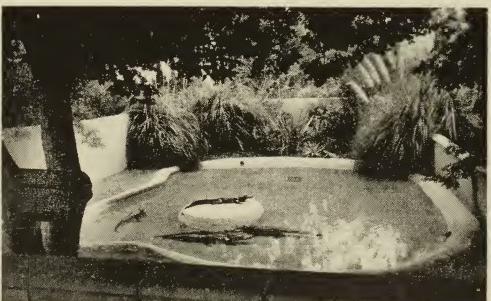
Facing the animal moats is the Clark Children's Theater, a striking building in the form of a gold-washed geodesic dome. It was designed by architects Ruocco and Delawie, fabricated by Jeffery Lindsay, and landscaped by Wimmer and Yamada. Hedges of (104) 'Chinese Goddess' Bamboo mask the roof supports in the foreground, with (105) Lily Turf (*Liriope spicata*) used as a ground cover.

Here, the path enters a fairly large, informal court, with three Siberian Elms (96) planted in spaces in the pavement. At the extreme right, between the gorilla and spider monkey pits and near the blue gate is (106) Kafir plum (*Harpephyllum caffrum*), a South African native with beautiful foliage ranging from bright red to dark, glossy green, and dark red, edible fruit (on female trees), the size of large olives. To the left in front of the Chicken pens, the large tree with a circular bench built around it is (107) Redbox or Silver Dollar Gum (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*), a moderate grower with light gray-green leaves.

Across the otter pit in the area of the two white telephone booths are three Seaforthia palms (94), and between the booths, a (108) Rubber tree (*Ficus elastica decora*) from Indonesia. Between the booths and the two-story office building, an (109) Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) is planted in a space in the pavement. In containers in the breezeway are dwarf citrus trees: Lisbon lemon, Satsuma (Owari) orange, Nagami kumquat and others.

At the office entrance is a (110) Monkey Puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*), an oddity from Chile. As far as I know, this is the only tree of its kind in San Diego. Its short, broad, triangular leaves overlap like shingles and closely surround the branches. The golden-leaved, dwarf shrubs in the foreground are (111) Evergreen Euonymus (*Euonymus japonicus variegatus compacta*), with prostrate pyracantha used as ground cover. The slender tree with the thorny trunk is (112) Floss Silk tree (*Chorisia speciosa*), a deciduous Brazilian native which takes its name from the silky floss of the seeds. Pink, three-inch flowers appear in winter when the tree is leafless.

In front of the rest rooms is a clump of (113) Banana



San Diego Zoo Photo
Pampas Grass (139) shows up behind alligator pools.



San Diego Zoo Photo

Flamingos prepare nests under Pygmy Date Palms (8); across the Lagoon a white peacock spreads its tail.

palms (*Musa paradisiaca*), the common cooking banana or plantain, and a (114) Summer or Valencia Orange (*Citrus sinensis* 'Valencia').

As a last short side trip before leaving the Children's Zoo, turn left toward the Rodent Grotto. Left of the entrance in a miniature rock garden is a small specimen of (115) Arizona Giant Cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*). Growing through the roof at the end of the Grotto is an (116) Ironbark Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*). Flowers of this species vary from white to red. Near the Grotto exit is a large Myoporum (102), and a series of vines on the wire fence leading toward the exit gates. First is (117) Cape Honeysuckle (*Tecomania capensis*), followed by (118) Pin-wheel Jasmine (*Jasminum gracile magnificum*), a high-climbing Australian native with fragrant clusters of white flowers in winter, (119) Carolina Jessamine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*), an arching, shrubby vine with yellow spring flowers, and (120) Bougainvillea (*Bougainvillea spectabilis* 'Barbara Karst'), a variety popular for its bright red flowers.

AFTER leaving the Children's Zoo, you will notice on your right a lush planting of Rice Paper Plant (53) almost hiding a magnificent large clump of (121) Senegal Date Palms (*Phoenix reclinata*). This tropical African palm with curving trunks somewhat resembles the coconut palm.

Following the planted area at the left of the walk, you will see first a Canary Palm (48), a large Cape Chestnut tree (27), and a Pink Ball shrub (*Dombeya*-54). The lower-growing shrubs behind the benches are (122) Laurustinus Viburnum (*Viburnum tinus robustum*), a mildew-resistant horticultural variety with rough leaves and white flowers tinged with pink, and (123) Glossy Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*), with waxy leaves and clusters of small

white flowers.

In the lunch area, spaced in the paving, are four Windmill Palms (1). There are two Yuccas (28) here, one near the walk next to the low wall, the other against the fence to the west along with two vines, (124) Evergreen Grape (*Cissus capensis*) from South Africa, and (125) Royal Trumpet Vine (*Distictis riversi*) from tropical America and the West Indies. At the end of the fence is a Moreton Bay Fig (45), and in the angle formed by the joining of the two roads, a Magnolia (39).

Proceed straight ahead to the point where the two left-hand walks divide. Between the walks are seven (126) Swamp Mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*), with large glossy leaves, white flowers, and reddish-brown, fibrous bark; a Seaforthia palm (94), and a Diamond-leaved pittosporum (82).

Following the broad walk toward the Reptile Mesa, you will see on each side a large number of Jelly palms (71), and near the corner at left another Coral tree, species unknown. The ground cover on both sides of the walk is Hottentot fig (*Carpobrotus edulis*), the widely-used ice plant with fleshy, three-sided, bright green leaves and large, showy flowers.

Near the corner of Wegeforth Bowl is a magnificent four-trunked eucalyptus tree, possibly the rarest plant in the Zoo. It is (127) (*Eucalyptus mortoniana*), a supposed natural hybrid of *E. maidenii* and *E. globulus* which originated in Los Angeles from Australian seed. Beneath the tree are a number of Cape Leadwort shrubs (34).

In front of the Bowl is a decorative planting of (128) Hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* 'San Diego Red' or 'Brilliant'). The low border plants used here are (129) Japanese Boxwood (*Buxus microphylla japonica*).

As you walk westward you will notice a (130) Brazilian Pepper tree (*Schinus terebinthifolia*) near the rest room

entrance at right. This popular evergreen shade tree bears small white flowers and attractive red berries in time for Christmas. Below it is a hedge of Natal plum (57). Between two Jelly palms (71) in front of the building is a (131) Mexican Blue Fan Palm (*Erythrina armata*) with erect, silvery-blue leaves. It is a good palm for hot, dry locations. The gray-barked trees behind the men's rest room are (132) Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*).

Westward again, at the right hand edge of the walk, is a (133) Knife-leaf Acacia (*Acacia cultriformis*), a shrubby plant with triangular, blade-shaped gray foliage, and small, globular yellow flowers in early spring. To the rear, from right to left, are a Cape Chestnut (27) and a (134) *Märkhamia lutea*, a summer-flowering tree from tropical Africa with large pinnate leaves and tubular, light yellow flowers in large terminal panicles.

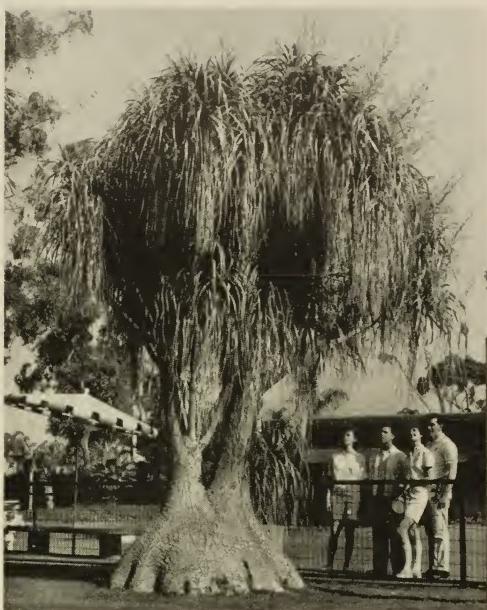
ON both sides of the gently sloping mesa, with monitor lizards and iguanas in the two central enclosures, and alligators and tortoises along the outer edges, rows of (135) Jacarandas (*Jacaranda acutifolia*) have been used much like street trees. This tropical American tree, with fern-like foliage and bluish-purple flowers in early summer, is variably deciduous for a short time in late winter. At the Zoo in June, the smaller iguanas were feeding avidly on jacaranda flowers as they blew from the trees into the enclosure.

Follow the path around the mesa in a counterclockwise direction. At the rear of the third pen are two (136) River She-oak trees (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*), New South Wales and Queensland natives with grass-like or needle-like foliage and numerous tiny cones. At the far corner of the mesa, to the right beyond the low wall, is a group of (137) Flooded or Desert Gum (*Eucalyptus rupestris*), with coppery young foliage turning to blue-green. The spreading trees overhanging the three alligator pools are (138) Evergreen Elm (*Ulmus parviflora semperflorens*). These trees from China, Korea, and Japan bloom in autumn. To the rear of the alligator pools are large clumps of (139) White Pampas Grass (*Cortaderia selloana*), from Argentina. These herbaceous plants, with saw-tooth edges on grassy foliage, produce white plumes on long stalks in late summer.

A U turn at the southwest corner of the mesa will start you up the gentle slope toward the giant tortoise enclosure. But first note the (140) *Eucalyptus stricklandii* beyond the low wall at the corner. Four Jerusalem Thorn trees (84) are spaced along the length of the tortoise pen, and others to the left in the iguana and monitor lizard enclosures. The smaller tree in the lizard pit is Kafir Plum (106).

Straight ahead at the end of the walk are six Ironbank Eucalyptus (115), and a group of (141) Spanish Bayonet (*Yucca aloifolia variegata*), native to the United States, the West Indies and Mexico, with yellow and green, sword-shaped leaves. To the left are several (142) Sydney Golden Wattle shrubs (*Acacia longifolia*).

Follow the left-hand walk to the west of the Reptile House. In the space between the two canteens is (143) *Acacia cyclops*, recognizable by its curling, twisted seed pods. At the curve of the fence bordering the steep canyon on the left is a rambling specimen of (144) Laurel Sumac (*Rhus laurina*), one of the native plants of the San Diego area. Along this rocky ridge are several (145) Century Plants (both *Agave americana* and *A. a. marginata*), succulent plants with wicked spines along the margins of the leaves. A scrawny plant between is (146) Water Wattle (*Acacia retinodes*). The Zoo reports that acacia leaves are favorite fodder for giraffes, elephants and



San Diego Zoo Photo

Zoo's Elephant Foot tree (148) bloomed last year.

okapis. Near the end of the fence is a more tree-like specimen of Laurel Sumac (144).

TURN left at the broad north-south walk and continue northward to the Flamingo Lagoon. At the southeast corner of the area is a large Rubber tree, species unknown, under which King Tut, the salmon-crested Cockatoo, holds court on his open perch. Behind him is a magnificent grove of Giant Birds-of-Paradise (11), with Shell Flowers (68) and (147) *Fatsia japonica* below. *Fatsia* is a lush shrub with bold, shiny, palmate leaves, and white flowers in umbels followed by small black berries.

The tropical plants in the dramatic grouping behind the lagoon are repetitions of those already identified. If you will follow the fence to the north, past clusters of Pygmy Date palms (8) in the foreground, you will find the last plant on the tour, the (148) Elephant Foot tree (*Beaucarnea recurvata*), from southeast Mexico. This curious plant with large, swollen buttress and grass-like leaves, was given to the Zoo by Mr. and Mrs. Will Hippen, Jr. In November, 1961, at the age of 27 years, it produced 11 panicles of white flowers, the third time in its life-span it has bloomed.

As a final cautionary note, let me paraphrase a remark (about animals in the original) from the Children's Zoo Guide Book: If there are plants in the Zoo that are not in this article, or plants in this article which are not in the Zoo, it is because, as our plants grow up, they often move and leave home, just like people.

The October-November issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN will carry a second plant tour of the Zoo grounds. Be on hand for a trip through the Monkey Mesa and the two Flight Cages.

the wee ones

MINIATURE ROSES

By G. R. Orndorff

THIS is an article about a little plant with a big name, *Rosa chinensis minima*, better known as Miniature, Fairy or Pygmy Rose, is a delightful plant with many applications in today's smaller gardens.

The miniatures, believed to have originated in China, have been cultivated for centuries, but only after their introduction into Europe did varieties begin to appear. Of these, *Rosa rouletti* is by far the most important. Montague Free, in his book *All About House Plants*, gives the following account of its origin. A Dr. Roulet noticed the little rose growing as a pot plant in the window of a cottage in the village of Mauborget, Switzerland. Dr. Roulet called it to the attention of Henri Correvon, a famous horticulturist from Geneva. Henri Correvon introduced it to general cultivation under its present name to honor Dr. Roulet. The people of Mauborget claim the plant has been grown there by the peasants as house plants for centuries.

Whether this story is true or not, *Rosa rouletti* is plainly a very old rose, since it appears in the background of many of the miniature varieties on sale in this country today.

Though the miniatures respond to extra-good care, they are easy to handle with a minimum of fuss and bother. The planting medium should provide good drainage. Probably the most critical requirement is correct moisture. Never allow the roots to become dry. Nor should there be an excess of water around them for any length of time. When applying water, water thoroughly, to bring about a flushing action of the soil. Do not water again until the soil begins to feel dry. Proper watering was our greatest difficulty, but with a little ingenuity you are bound

to overcome any troubles encountered along this line.

The mix we use is a variation of the U.C. mix: 60 percent peat, 30 percent builder's sand and 10 percent leaf mold, plus Superphosphate, Sulphate of Ammonia, Potassium Nitrate, Dolomite Lime and Hydrate of Lime. Organic Hoof and Horn is also added to the mix. (If you haven't used hoof and horn, try it. You will see color in your blooms as never before.) In feeding, use a fertilizer high in phosphorous and potash, with low nitrogen content.

Mildew, aphid and red spider seem to be the greatest enemies of the miniatures. A daily rinsing of the foliage with a fine spray when the sun is low will help prevent infestation of both aphid and mildew. But for this to work in your favor it must be done



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Little Buckaroo



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Simplex

regularly and consistently. This of course is a preventive measure.

When spraying for mildew is required we use Cal-Sul at half the manufacturer's recommended strength. For aphid and red spider we use Tender Leaf or Dubl-Deth. Both the latter sprays are for tender plants.

With the new varieties offered on today's market, you can have miniature forms of Hybrid Teas, Hybrid Polyantha, old fashioned singles, tree roses, climbers and Moss Roses. Crossing the miniatures with standard roses has brought this about.

During the past year we visited the Sequoia Nursery at Visalia, California, where Ralph Moore has done some wonderful things with miniature roses. Local rosarians will remember Mr. Moore as one of the hybridizers on the "Panel of Experts" at the 1961 National Rose Convention in San Diego.

This year he will come out with several varieties which will be worthy of anyone's garden: Little Flirt, a double, bright talisman; Baby Ophelia, a soft pink and gold; Simplex, a five-petaled single, with an apricot bud that opens to a beautiful snow white, resembling the bloom of dogwood; and Silver Tips, a soft lavender, the petals tipped with silver.

EQUALY as beautiful are some of the older varieties: Red Imp, Tom Thumb, Centennial Miss, Oakington Ruby, Rosa Rouletti (still on the market and listed by Mr. Moore), Westmont, Little Buckaroo, Bit-O-Sunshine, Pink Heather, Peggy Grant, and the climbers, Jackie, a very good

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Silver Tips

ivory-yellow, and Candy Cane, an unusual pink with white stripes. Of all the miniatures I believe Pink Cameo causes the most comment. A very beautiful climber, it doesn't know when to stop blooming. The buds, of Hybrid Tea form, are a very double pink, reminding one of a cameo.

Pruning of miniatures consists of cutting back around July and again at the end of the season when they are given a couple of months' rest. Removal of dead wood and excessive growth aids in shaping the plant at any time.

The bush types grow from 6 to 15 inches high, while the tree or standard forms reach about 18 inches. Because of this small size they are especially adapted for use where space is a limiting factor. In a six-foot-square area you may have as many as fifteen or twenty varieties. Climbers grow up to 5 feet tall.

Miniature roses may be used in many ways, from formal, miniature rose gardens and massed plantings, to pot specimens, borders and even rock gardens. They should not be kept indoors for more than a few days at a time.

These little fellows are fun and interesting. They can provide a wonderful project for any child regardless of age or sex. They may be exhibited in the miniature class for cut roses or as growing specimens. Above all, they are not novelties, but fine, up-standing members of the rose species.

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Real Collector's Items

Species Geraniums

By Thos. L. Hosmer

IT has been many years since I started playing around with species geraniums. "Playing around" was exactly the way it started. The doctor had given me but six months to live, so Mrs. Hosmer and I sold our home in Laguna Beach, sold our business, and came down to our ranch in northern San Diego County.

For the lack of anything else I could do physically at that time, I started setting out the Lady Washingtons we had brought along from our little nursery on El Paseo in Laguna. They grew so rampant in the decomposed granite soil, and from the use of uncontaminated water, that everyone who came to the ranch loved them and wanted to know where they could buy them. To make a long story shorter, I was practically back in the nursery business.

During those lean years I first concentrated on Lady Washingtons, then Scented Leaf, followed quite rapidly by Peltatum and Dwarfs, and then the Fancy Leaves. In all that time I occasionally bought a Specie, but really never paid them much attention. Now at a ripe old lazy age, I wish I had given them more time, for they are the most interesting members of the great geranium family. Most of them have weird habits of growth that set them aside as real collector's items, and though most of them fail to have true geranium-like blooms, a few have the most startling blooms of all the family.

If I could have only one Species geranium, I believe it would be *Pelargonium tetragonum*. It is to all appearances a four-sided hollow stalk with weird joints from which the leaves and blooms appear. Often there appears from the same place a growth that looks like a thorn. Very often, especially toward the top of a plant,

parts of the stalk will definitely be three-sided. A noteworthy difference of *P. tetragonum* is that it often has flowers with only four petals instead of the usual five that are so familiar in the Zonals, Lady Washingtons and Scented Leaves. E. J. Alexander, in his book *Succulent Plants of New and Old World Deserts*, describes its blooms as "two-lipped, pink and white flowers, borne in pairs on stalks from the leaf-axils." (Several of these interesting Species belong to both the succulent and geranium families.)

By a bit of forcing in its early stages, or by giving it too much shade, *P. tetragonum* can often be grown in a drooping form that makes an unusual hanging basket. It will root readily, even lying on the ground. When it is properly grown, the luscious dark green color of its true geranium leaves add a touch to any collection that can't be obtained any other way. I have never grown Tetragonium inside, but I believe it can be done. I have had it in three, four and six-inch pots and also in a hanging basket, but have never tried it in the open ground.

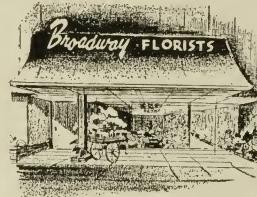
For my second choice in the Specie group, I must take *Pelargonium acetosum*, one that is not often mentioned in geranium books. This fine South African Specie is famous as one of the parents of Holmes Miller's new race, the first of which he has called Tweedledee and Tweedledum. These two have taken on characteristics of the other parent, Black Vesuvius (a Dwarf). *P. acetosum* often has a tendency to hang down, and therefore makes an excellent hanging basket. It is grown more for its lush, gray-green foliage than for its blushing-pink to pink blooms. It seems to have been in England before 1724, but is still too little known in the United States.

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Beyond these two, I have difficulty choosing between *P. echinatum*, *P. stapletoni*, and *P. tomentosum*, which in spite of its lovely mint aroma is a true species, rather than just a scented leaf. For the sake of novelty, I believe I would class the first two together and accept them as coming next in line, in spite of the fact that *P. stapletoni* seems to be a man-made hybrid. Most writers have doubts on this subject, but if not a hybrid, why was it named for Miss Stapleton?

P. echinatum is rather easily grown, and although its spiny stipules seem offensive to some collectors, they are very interesting to others. Its significant feature is the heart-shaped blotch on some of its clear white petals. *P. stapletoni*, with deep, reddish-pink blooms, carries the heart-shaped marking on all petals. The stems of *P. stapletoni* are much smaller, and for the author, it has always been harder to propagate. Both are well worth your attention.

P. tomentosum is the best mint-scented geranium. It could perhaps be called the best mint-scented plant in existence; at least it is the most versatile. The rather large, flannelly, dark gray-green leaves are its strong characteristic, since its white flowers are very small and nearly always inconspicuous. *P. tomentosum* can be used as a pot specimen (by pruning), in a hanging basket, or espaliered. On its own I have seen it push itself up the side of a lath house to the top and then reach out for more space to climb. Its leaves are a pleasure both to feel and smell.

ANOTHER favorite is *P. fulgidum*, one of the most interesting of the species in both foliage and flower. Its silvery green leaves are always a joy, and its vermilion flowers are outstanding in any garden. In the author's experience it has always had a tendency to stay low to the ground. It is easy to grow and very easily gets along in the open ground without too much water.

P. scandens, often called the climbing geranium, gives you the thought that back in time it might have been one of the cultivars that produced some of our present-day fancy leaves, for it has a distinct zone marking on each leaf.

Quite undistinguished, except for its chartreuse, evening-scented bloom, is *P. gibbosum*, the Knotted Stork's Bill. Its gray-green leaves are interesting, but the plant has a bad habit of going dormant when mistreated or when you try to take cuttings from it.

P. abronianifolium, often called

Wormwood- or Southernwood-leaved, has silver-gray, much-branched foliage with small white flowers. It has always been much in demand for flower arrangers, but has always been difficult for the author to grow either in a pot or the open ground.

Perhaps one of the most interesting bloomers is *P. glaucifolium*, undoubtedly a hybrid. It also has the bad habit of going dormant. Another hybrid classed as a species is *P. rutaceum*, which has the same bad habit of defoliating when least expected. Both of these are well worth growing for their unusual black blooms.

One could go on and on with these species geraniums, but I suggest you join the International Geranium Society to keep up with them through the articles in its magazine. Like all other Societies they have recently had to raise their dues, which are now \$4. You can send your check for this amount to me, but made out to the Society, and I will see that you are enrolled.

Again, let me state that you may send questions on geraniums to me at Route #4, Box 99A, Vista, California. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for a reply.

50 YEARS AGO IN CALIFORNIA GARDEN

August, 1912—The gardens of San Diego represent the world. Bamboo from China, lilies from Japan, gerbers from Africa, eucalyptus from Australia, countless things from South America and Hawaii, and so on all over the map.

Fanny L. Ryan, September, 1912—All day or for a season, both sap and life blood flow from root or heart to branch end or finger tips, and back again. All day this work progresses, but as night comes on nature puts her children to sleep, the seeming inanimate resting just as securely as the animate.

G. T. Keene, September, 1912—As in anything else worth having, a garden requires the expenditure of time and thought, and the overcoming of obstacles. Unless one is able to take a real pleasure in the everyday work and problems, we might as well stick to the two-by-four apartment, and try to satisfy our love for plants and flowers at the city's expense, by walking through the parks. There is satisfaction out in the garden if we are willing to dig for it.



Euphorbia ingens at Quail Park

This Succulent Rears its Head

ONE of the most striking succulents grown in San Diego County is *Euphorbia ingens*, known commonly as Naboen. It belongs to the Euphorbia or Spurge family, which consists of more than 6000 species divided into more than 250 genera. Of these, less than 50 resemble cacti and are cultivated for their curious shapes.

In its native habitat of southern Africa, *Euphorbia ingens* will grow to 30 feet, but here the largest specimens reach about half that height. It is of sturdy growth, with a 3-7 angled branch structure, branching and rebranching. Most of these branches are erect and attain the same level; occasionally, some become extra heavy and curve downward.

To really appreciate the fantastic habit of growth, the plant should be seen at close range. Following are a few examples where this is possible:

Encinitas: Quail Park.

La Jolla: Art Center.

Mission Hills: 4244 Albatross (east side); 3917 Alameda Dr. (west side); three magnificent specimens at 1314 Puterbaugh; 4158 and 4161 Front.

East San Diego: 4989 El Cajon Blvd.

Encanto: 6210 Wunderlin (near east fence).

Chauncy I. Jerabek

BOOK TOURS

Conducted by
Alice W. Heyneman

Seed Identification Manual. By Alexander C. Martin and William C. Barkley. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1961. 221 pages. \$10.

This manual meets a long-standing need for a reference work dealing with seed identification. It is designed to help agriculturists, foresters, wildlife biologists, county farm agents, farmers and others to identify seeds in their particular fields of interest.

More than 600 species of seeds are represented in 824 photographic plates and 288 drawings. Technical language has been used as little as possible to give maximum utility. Common plant names, as well as scientific names, are used throughout the manual.

The manual consists of two major parts, one wholly photographic except for captions, and the other primarily textual, giving clues for identification. The arrangement is according to plant families, under three major classifications, Farmlands, Wetlands, and Woodlands. Identification in most cases can be made simply by matching the unknown seed with the picture.

There is a selected bibliography and an index.

Dr. Martin, formerly research botanist-biologist with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, is a world authority on seed morphology.

Mr. Barkley is an outstanding photographer and illustrator.

Reviewed by Dorothy R. Harvey

Survey Indicates Landscaping Pays

In a study made this year by Pennsylvania State University, 62% of the owners of recently landscaped homes estimated that the value of their real estate had increased from two to more than ten times the amount of money they had spent. The most frequent estimates placed the increase in property value at three to four times the cost of the planting.

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A Calendar

• DAHLIAS

of

IT'S payoff time for dahlias. Plants on which such careful attention has been lavished the last two to three months should be justifying themselves now and rewarding the gardener with spectacular blooms. With just ordinary care, they will continue to provide color for the yard and house until mid-November.

That ordinary care includes regular watering and spraying, and at least one feeding.

Blooming dahlia plants soak up a lot of water, so water them thoroughly about once a week, or whenever the topsoil becomes dry.

Once a week also should be the rule for spraying to discourage insects; this is routine for all gardening in our sub-tropical climate, and essential for dahlias and other flowering plants. Malathion or a general-purpose spray containing malathion is recommended. If evidences of red spiders show up, use an insecticide containing kelthane or any other good miticide.

Soil containing humus or prepared in the spring with plentiful steer fertilizer will carry dahlia plants through the summer, but for good and continuing flowers, feeding is recommended. Plants not fed yet may be given a boost now by application of a 4-10-10 or a 5-12-12 fertilizer. If all those numbers are confusing, just ask the nurseryman for bulb food. Give each plant about half a cup, or a handful, spread in a circle about 12 to 18 inches from the stem. Scratch the soil, and water the fertilizer in. For best results, repeat the feeding each three to four weeks. If the gardener doesn't like to use chemicals, he will find fish emulsion a good substitute.

The gardener growing dahlias for the first time will learn very quickly that they won't keep if deprived of water after cutting. Whether they are the large ones or tiny pompons, the dahlia blossoms require water immediately after cutting.

Late afternoon or dusk is recommended as the best time to cut the blooms, and when cutting them it's a good idea to have a bucket or vase filled with air-temperature water right there. If that is impractical, turn the cut blooms with heads down immediately so the plants' own moisture won't drain out of the hollow stems.

In staging dahlias for exhibition—whether in the home or on the show table—deep immersion and keeping in a darkened, draft-free area overnight give them added freshness. At no time, however, should the water cover the leaves; leaves left in the water darken very quickly and hasten the fermentation of the water in the vase or container.

Properly cut and staged in this show

fashion, even the largest flowers will remain fresh three days, and possibly four. The very small dahlias will keep a day or so longer if the water is changed.

When cutting dahlias, the gardener should develop the knack of harvesting only the "ripe" flowers. Blooms of most varieties will wilt quickly if cut too "green" or before they have reached their mature fullness. There are exceptions that do even better if cut before they are fully open, such as the lovely pink Gerre Hoek, and others of the "water lily" type.

Learning the habits of those exceptions, and mastering the knack of pushing a plant along to make it bloom at its very best are some of the challenges that make dahlia gardening such fun.

Larry Sisk
SD County Dahlia Society

Care

• CAMELLIAS

MULCHES are invaluable in providing a good environment for camellias. Camellias, of course, are native to the wooded slopes of the Himalayas, where they thrive in the filtered light of trees, their roots anchored in rich forest soil, with the soil surface carpeted with decaying leaves and vegetation. Organic mulches help to simulate their native habitat, holding moisture, affording good root-zone aeration, and tempering the climate.

Strange to say, a good mulch contributes warmth and coolness. Dark material, such as oak leaf mold, compost, and peat moss, absorbs sunlight, warms the root zone, and stimulates bacterial activity in the soil. This is especially desirable in the spring when new growth is starting. This warming influence picks up moisture from the mulch, increases the humidity, and reduces evaporation stress in the case of foliage exposed to the sun. As air temperature climbs, the blanket of mulch insulates the soil from the full impact of the sun, thus tempering the heat.

Mulching material shields the soil from the driving force of rain, which compacts many soils, holds moisture for slow percolation into the soil, and greatly reduces erosion from run-off.

The natural breakdown of organic mulches improves soil structure while contributing valuable plant nutrients.

Useful mulching materials include

oak leaf mold, peat moss, pine needles, compost, shavings, sawdust, ground bark, leaves, straw, and wood chips. While shavings and sawdust may seem unsightly at first, both products darken quickly when spread as a mulch, and blend into the landscaping.

A depth of three inches is recommended for loose material such as straw, pine needles, leaves, and shavings, and about two inches for oak leaf mold and wood chips.

Additional applications may be made as the mulch breaks down, but do not let the soil build up. Camellia roots are surface feeders and should not be buried.

The mulch need not be disturbed when you fertilize. Just spread camellia fertilizer or cottonseed meal on the surface of the mulch and water in.

Clive N. Pillsbury
SD Camellia Society

• FUCHSIAS

THE gay, dancing, fairy-like flower we've been telling about seems to be coming into its own. Fuchsia displays, fuchsia advertisements, and printed articles about them have appeared everywhere. Until recently some people (especially Easterners) had been asking what fuchsias looked like; now they are asking for the newly hybridized varieties by name. Women's fashions early this season featured "fuchsia color" prominently, confusing as that may seem in view of the endless array of colors now found among the flowers.

Several books on the plants have appeared recently, notably several authoritative ones by national Fuchsia Societies. And the *San Diego Union* favored them with a delightful and informative article by Arthur F. Otis, in which he mentioned with warm appreciation their orchid-like origin and the appeal of their flamboyant colors.

This recognition and healthy interest comes happily in a season when the first normal rainfall in several years has made fuchsias abundantly beautiful in Southern California. The long cool spring, with no excessive heat up to July, has produced unusually fine plant growth this year, though admittedly with slow development of very abundant bloom in most gardens locally.

This is true unless the plants have
Next page please

ROLAND HOYT*
RECOMMENDS



Drawing by Alfred C. Hottes

A Spiny Tree-Shrub

A SPINY, evergreen tree-shrub, *Oncoba roulledgi*, comes from South and East Africa, where it grows at altitudes between 5-6000 feet. It reaches a height of 10 or 12 feet, sometimes up to 20 feet. It is usually rather thinly foliated, but in a well-kept garden, proper and timely pruning will tidy up the loose structure and fill out the herbage for body. The shrub is evergreen only down to around freezing, and will be severely damaged, if not killed, at 25° F.

The leaves, up to 4 inches long, are alternate, oblong or elliptic, and deeply wavy-toothed, with a short, thick petiole that bends into a curved midrib. This device allows the blade to face the sun for more efficiency in photosynthesis. The adjacent brownish spine or thorn, lying at a 30° angle to the petiole, is something to consider when using the plant near traffic.

During summer there is a succession

of white flowers, generally in pairs on old wood, each with a yellow fluff of stamens, the whole about 2 inches across and delightfully fragrant. They resemble single white camellias. The fruit is an extremely hard, leathery berry, about 3 inches in diameter. At least one native name for *Oncoba* refers to "Snuff Box," the hard shell of the fruit being used as a container after the pulp has been removed and eaten. Sometimes gravel is placed within and a rattle-box for a child results.

The name *Oncoba* is Arabic in origin, as is the plant itself, although many of the 25 species will extend into tropical Africa. Cliff Tanner planted this species during the '30s throughout Rancho Santa Fe and possibly in La Jolla. Many may still remain, unnamed, unknown, but appreciated. The same is true of many species of notable character that sink into obscurity for lack of promotion.

This rare and striking shrub stands, and needs, plenty of water when in growth, but is also drought resistant when once established. Plant it in sun or half shade.

*Member, ASLA, author of *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions*.

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already been fed a special bloom formula (more phosphate, in particular) to hasten maturity and promote heavy blooming. We note that some English garden authorities recommend a regular feeding formula, either in dry or liquid form, of one part Sulphate of Ammonia, three parts Superphosphate, and one part Sulphate of Potash, more or less throughout the season from May to September.

In the semi-desert climate of Southern California, however, our experience favors feeding fuchsias with an organic fish-emulsion base fertilizer every two to four weeks (depending upon conditions) as a regular food, with something like the dry formula above applied only two or three times during the year. Its composition may be varied to include more nitrogen for growth and foliage, or more phosphate for blooms, as desired. Most nurseries have several combinations, and ready advice on fertilizer variations, though it may be more fun and gainful to learn the whys and hows yourself by experimentation. Fortunately, this is not a fragile or temperamental plant, and most amateur gardeners are immediately fascinated and delighted at their success with it.

We have dwelt so often on the prime importance of regular and thorough watering; soaking, spraying, hot-weather fogging, and occasional leaching to avoid accumulation of salts, that we shall go on now to pests. Although relatively hardy and disease-free with reasonable care and protection from outside infection, fuchsias do have a few enemies that must be watched. Some of them can be dislodged and discouraged merely by sharp water-spraying, and all of them may be controlled if the efficient modern insecticides offered now in most nurseries are properly used.

Small sucking insects, called aphids, may cause the leaves to curl, twist, or be stunted. Less easily seen or recognized is another pest called white fly. It deposits its larvae along the growing tips and undersides of leaves with similar effect, and is much harder to dislodge by water-spray than aphids. But malathion provides an almost 100% control.

All plants run the risk of caterpillar damage unless a regular spray schedule is maintained, for most of these worms are the young of the butterflies and moths found in all gardens at times. Some gardeners like to hand-pick worms from their plants, but if you are not among them, DDT is perhaps the best chemical to use. It is

also best for the tiny insect called thrip. This pest may cause almost complete defoliation if a bad infestation is neglected. Malathion or lindane sprays also will control thrip easily if applied when the identifying streaks or discoloration first appear on the leaves.

Perhaps the most damaging insect to fuchsias, even before its presence can be detected, is the red spider mite. It is common in Southern California in hot, dry weather, and seems to have an affinity for some varieties more than others. Bronze spots on the undersides of leaves, sometimes showing through on top as reddish splotches, are the surest sign of an infestation that, if neglected, may cause defoliation. Red spider is best controlled by malathion. Lindane, DDT, etc., are not effective against it.

This discussion should not give the impression of a continual battle. With the same average care, you can have greater success with fuchsias than with most other plants. So put them among your loveliest ferns, and enjoy them in bright hanging baskets all through your garden.

Morrison W. Doty
SD Fuchsia Society

• ORCHIDS

THE most important item for August is a change of fertilizer. To induce spiking of cymbidiums you should switch to a low-nitrogen food. Most acid fertilizers are low in nitrogen, but check the label to make sure. In case you have forgotten, the first number in the series of three is the percentage of nitrogen, the second is the amount of phosphorous, the third is potash. A 2-10-10 fertilizer is required by the plant from now until the flowering season is over in February.

It is important to keep your cymbidium plants moist, since drying out now will severely damage the flower spikes that are forming. Watch out for those hot, dry "Santa Ana" days. Plants will dehydrate rapidly under these winds, and should be mist sprayed every hour or two to raise the humidity.

Plant pests are prolific during warm weather. Ants bring aphids and aphids love to eat buds. Scale should be cleaned up before it can get into the new growths this winter. We all

know what slugs and snails can do to buds, but they are also fond of tender, green root tips. You may not see any red spider but chances are that they are around. So get busy with a spray and get the plants cleaned up before any buds appear. It only takes a minute for insects to damage a bud or a whole spike.

Along about now you may discover a nub of a flower spike, especially if you have any early-blooming cymbidiums. They will appear at the base of the last green bulbs to be made up and look like a dark, blunt finger. A word of warning: be careful if you are going to poke around for spikes. It is very easy to break off the small spikes and the new growths also. I know it is hard to resist looking for spikes, but proceed with caution.

Betty Newkirk
SD County Orchid Society

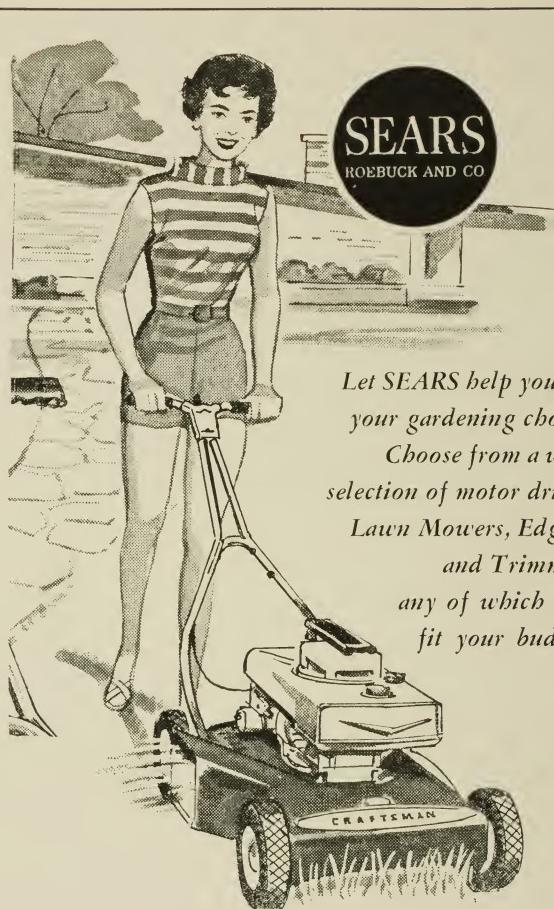
• BEGONIAS

A FRIEND has presented you with a beautiful blooming tuberous begonia plant, and you ask how to take care of it. You are told never to let it dry out completely. The inevitable happens; you over-water, and the buds drop before they start to open.

You contact your friend for advice, and are told that you are giving it too much water, so you let the plant dry out a bit. It still doesn't look too happy.

You decide that it might like a bit of sunshine, so you put it out of doors on the front porch. It seems to perk up for a bit, but then the leaves and flowers begin to look dry with burned edges and you ask about this. Now, you learn, there is too much wind on the front porch, and not enough moisture in the air. You move the plant to a more protected spot, and spray the entire thing with a fine mist from the garden hose. The result is that whereas the edges were crisp-brown before they are now soggy-brown; small white fuzzy spots appear here and there on the leaves, as well as small "shot" holes.

Your friend says that the plant is probably getting too wet again. The white spots are something called "mildew," and the holes are caused by insects. The thing to do is apply a combination insecticide-fungicide spray on the plant.



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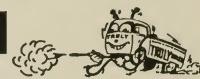
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You do this, following the instructions on the label — only you figure that the formula is not strong enough for the condition your plant is in, so you use double strength. The plant seems to look better right after the application, but the day is warm, and by evening you have a very sad looking remnant of a potted begonia.

At this point you decide that you have bothered your friend enough — and you hate to admit how very ignorant you are — so you pay a visit to your nearest nursery. You are delighted to discover a duplicate of your former plant. You purchase it, and three or four others that you just can't resist. The nurseryman knows about such things, and gives you detailed instructions about the care of tuberous begonias.

You learn that the plants should be kept moist, but not wet; that they like a location that is protected from the wind, but with a good circulation of air. They like sunlight, but filtered sunlight, so that the sun will not be on any one part of the plant for too long a time. You learn, also, that when the instructions on a bottle of fungicide-insecticide call for a stated amount, you are to use that amount only, and not more; that it is better to err on the side of not enough, rather than on the side of too much. The plant will need to be fed when it is growing vigorously; again, the instructions on the container should be followed.

You are told that in the fall the plant will begin to go into its resting period. Indications of this are the smaller flowers it will produce, and the way the leaves will tend to grow down, rather than stand upright. This is the time to begin withholding some of the moisture to let the top die back. When the top is dry, and the stem comes off, you put the pot aside for a few weeks, dump it out, and discover that the potato-like tuber which has given you all of this beauty was growing in a very light, loose potting mix.

You have followed your nurseryman's advice, and have enjoyed your tuberous begonias all season, and when they have been dumped out of their pots, you carefully lift the tubers, set them aside to dry completely, and store them in a dry, dark location until the next early spring.

Of course, you're going to try again. You did very well after a bad start. Maybe next summer you can be the giver.

Margaret M. Lee

• ROSES

AUGUST and September bring some of our hottest weather along with occasional "Santa Ana" winds. This means regular, deep watering for roses. Feeding and spraying is best done a day or two after these soakings. Should your rose plants be covered with dust, don't hesitate to wash them off with a fine spray. You are bound to dislodge a few interloping critters as well. This showering should be done early in the morning; roses like to go to bed dry.

Now's the time for some summer pruning. Remove all twiggy growth, especially from the center of the plant. It is most important to have good air circulation around and through your rose bushes. This helps discourage the fungus diseases and encourages more basal breaks. The proper cutting of blooms keeps the plant shapely; cut to an outside, five-leaflet leaf, leaving up to four leaves on the stem.

Perhaps this is a good time for some reminders: it is important to treat your new basal breaks as you do newly planted bare-root rose plants. Let them candelabra as nature directs and don't cut blooms with stems. The more foliage left on the stalk, the more robust the plant will become. If you haven't renewed your mulch, by all means do so. The hot sun will burn the fine feeder roots that are as near as one inch below the surface of your rose bed. Continue to feed your roses once each month with any of the local rose foods—granular or liquid.

The AARS winners for 1963 have been selected. There are only two this time, both hybrid teas. One is a lovely pink that softens as the large, high-centered bloom opens. It has a light but rich fragrance. The plant is well clothed in apparently disease resistant foliage. This beautiful rose, the result of a cross between Peace and Virgo, was developed by Herbert Swim and O. L. Weeks. It is the twelfth AARS winner for Mr. Swim. The name "Royal Highness" is most appropriate.

The second winner, "Tropicana," is another of the exciting orange-reds. It has won thirteen previous awards here and in Europe. Mathias Tantau, Jr. of Germany takes a bow for this one. It, too, has Peace in its parentage.

Both of these roses sound pretty exciting. Better start thinking about a spot for at least one of each!

Nettie B. Trott
SD Rose Society

• The flower show of the 1962 Southern California Exposition and San Diego County Fair passed into memory on July 9. Exhibitors, after spending months in planning and assembling their displays, went through the final chore of tearing them down. With ribbons in hand, and trucks loaded with plants and building materials, they fanned out in all directions to their home grounds. The 17th staging of one of the west's largest flower shows had finished its run.

Interest this year centered on new faces. Gerald Garner, 19-year-old Cal Poly landscaping student, of Solana Beach, took first in landscaping, the sweepstakes prize of the show, with a studiously simple rendering of a front garden and entry for a contempo-



rary dwelling. Bud Gresham's exotic Mayan ruin ran a close second.

All was not sweetness and flowers. Dismay at some of the judge's decisions, a common reaction at any show or ball game, was heard from both exhibitors and the public. The set-up of the show came in for criticism as well; many people felt that dividing the flower show with commercial exhibits was a mistake. Fair officials agreed that this biggest flower show ever had presented problems that weren't always adequately solved. But then, there's always next year.



Above: Gerald Garner's stylized garden won sweepstakes prize at the flower show.

Left: Mrs. Ralph Rosenberg was one of dozens of hostesses in the Floral Association's blue-ribbon display. Alice M. Clark designed the outdoor living room of dry block and redwood. Herb display in foreground and portable brazier caught the public's fancy.

Right: Seven-year-old Deborah Zimmerman of Escondido knows that gardens are for children and bird baths for turtles. This exhibit, by Macpherson's Garden Center, included a lath house, won first prize for Nursery Displays.



FAIR REVIEW

Photos by Herling & Robinson

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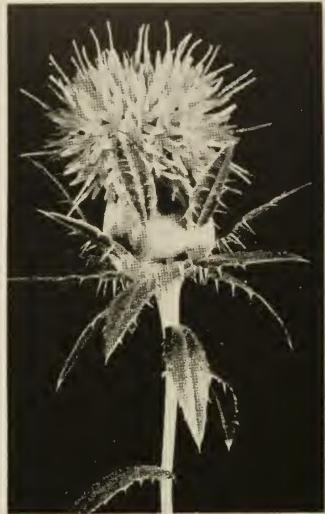


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What Is Safflower?



Bloom of safflower resembles thistle.

In a test market last year, safflower salad oil reached third place in sales after only three months. Safflower margarine, new on the market this year, may become the largest single user of safflower by the end of the 1962 harvest. As a source of the most highly poly-unsaturated oil commercially available, safflower is showing up in more and more products and is attracting increasing attention from a cholesterol-conscious public. What is it?

Safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius* L.) is an annual of the Thistle family. The commercial varieties grown in the United States are spiny, with composite flower heads with green bracts and yellow or orange flowers. Flowers and buds are frost-tender. A central stem, from 1½ to 5 feet tall, produces one to five flower heads, each containing 40-100 florets. Each floret bears a single seed, about the size of a barley kernel, containing 26-37% oil, 11-27% protein, and 5-7% moisture. The seeds mature in 110-150 days if the crop is planted in spring; fall-planted crops take slightly longer.

The most successful area in California for growing safflower is the Sacramento Valley. The crop is grown in other interior valleys of California, in irrigated sections of Arizona, in the northern Great Plains, and the area between the Cascade and Rocky Mountains. Most of it is grown without irrigation, following an irrigated crop or on land with a high water table. Safflower develops the deepest root system of any annual crop yet investigated by the University of California

Department of Irrigation. Tests have shown that mature plants can completely exhaust available soil moisture to a depth of 12 feet. This characteristic minimizes the need for surface irrigation, undesirable for safflower because of root-rot injury in wet soils.

Safflower is unsuited to coastal regions, or other areas of high humidity, because of its susceptibility to rust, root rot, leaf spot, and bud rot. Rains or high humidity during ripening and harvesting may reduce seed yields. Thrip damage to young buds is a newly recognized problem in California.

Prior to the development of food-product applications, the main use of safflower oil was in paints and varnishes because it is easily clarified and non-yellowing. The plant also provides a source of meal or seed-cake, usable as a protein feed supplement for cattle, sheep, and poultry.

Safflower will appear in San Diego County agricultural records this year for the first time. Otay Ranch, east of Chula Vista, planted 100 acres to the crop in May after a successful test plot last year.

NATURE'S NOOK

. . . Sidelights
on the world of plants

Three Tropical Fruits

By Donald Betts

HERE are three tropical fruits which can be grown successfully in the San Diego area, if given the right environment. The first on the list is the most difficult to manage, being quite tender to cold. The second is less so, becoming more hardy as it matures. The third and last, more a sub-tropical than a true tropical, is sufficiently hardy for our temperatures, and is very well suited to our dry climate.

The first is the Papaya, or Pawpaw tree, a member of the passionfruit family. Its botanical name is *Carica papaya*. This interesting plant is an erect and unbranched tree with very large, very deeply cut, palmate leaves. It is fast growing and short lived. In a frost-free location, it will bear clusters of large fruit just at the base of the leaves. The flesh of the fruit is pinkish or orange, and is very refreshing and agreeable to the taste. It may also be made into jams and sauces, or, when unripe, may be pickled or boiled and used as a vegetable.

The Papaya is an unusually precocious tree, bearing fruit continuously under favorable conditions from one to four years of age. But it usually deteriorates rapidly thereafter, although it is very prolific during its brief prime.

Individual Papaya trees bear flowers of one sex only, so, to be sure of obtaining fruit, you must set out two plants of different sexes. Occasionally, it is true, bisexual flowers are produced on one tree, so that you sometimes have fruit borne on a tree not cross-

fertilized by another. But these fruits will be quite small, and not at all numerous.

The next plant is *Blighia sapida*, or "Akee" tree. This native of tropical West Africa, a member of the Sapindaceae, was named for a certain Captain Bligh, a British seaman of the 18th Century, who may have been the Captain Bligh of The Bounty.

The "Akee" is a rigid, erect plant growing to thirty-odd feet, with smallish, oblong, attractive leaves. It makes an excellent shade tree, dark and glossy, is quite sturdy and stands up well to the wind. The flowers are small and white, not very noticeable to the eye, but pleasantly fragrant.

The fruit of this tree will probably not set very heavily in our area, but what does appear will be very decorative, yellow to red as exposed in degree to sun, and bright red when ripe. This striking fruit, bluntly triangular, is about 3 inches long. The edible portion is the firm, cream-colored flesh developed around the base of the shiny black seeds. When ripe, the fruit splits open, and it must be picked and eaten then. On long exposure to the air it not only becomes discolored, but is downright unsafe to eat. Also, please bear in mind that when this peculiar fruit is in the unripe stage, it is equally unsafe. It makes a delicious food, however, if taken ripe, fried in butter or boiled, and flavored with a bit of salt and pepper. In fact, it is said that in Jamaica it is vastly preferred to bacon and eggs!

Quite aside from the fruit, the "Akee" makes an exceedingly handsome evergreen shade tree. It is sturdy, long of life, and well adapted to our sunny gardens.

The last tropical fruit on our list is the Guava. Of the several kinds, the first to mention here is *Psidium guajava*, sometimes called the Indian guava. A native of tropical America, it makes a large spreading shrub or small tree. The large, round, juicy fruits are lemon-yellow when ripe, with a reddish or yellowish pulp mixed with many small seeds. The fruit has a tart, sharp flavor which is very refreshing. It makes good jams and pies, but is used mainly for jelly.

Another species, *Psidium cattleianum*, has small, round reddish or yellow fruits of a sweet acid flavor suitable for desserts. An offshoot of this species, variety *lucidum*, has sulfur-yellow fruits of a somewhat more delicate flavor. Both the species and the variety make handsome ornamental shrubs, and both do exceptionally well

in our area and bear heavily every winter.

Finally, one should not fail to mention the famous Pineapple Guava, of the same family as the other guavas, but a different genus. Its botanical name is *Feijoa sellowiana*. This plant, native to the central regions of South America, was first introduced into Europe and North America around 1900, and is now widely planted and enjoyed on the French Riviera and in Southern California.

It grows to about 15 feet tall, with leaves somewhat like those of the olive tree, but larger. The upper surfaces are glossy green, the lower surfaces silvery-gray. This unusually ornamental foliage is much heightened by the flowers, which appear in the spring. About an inch wide, they are composed of four cupped petals, white outside and red inside, topped by a tuft of crimson stamens one inch long.

The fruit, oval or oblong, about two inches long, has a dull green skin, enclosing a layer of granular pulp which in turn surrounds a quantity of pale, melting pulp with the flavor of pineapple. The fruit is commonly eaten fresh, and the seeds are so small they can't be felt in your mouth. It may also be cooked or made into jam or jelly.

WHEN planting Pineapple Guava, set two or more bushes nearby in the ground, to permit cross-pollination. Better yet, plant a strain of known productivity, such as the Coolidge variety. Remember, however, that the fruit should not be picked from the shrub or tree. Allow it to fall to the ground. Then it will be truly mature. It should be gathered and laid in a cool place, until it is slightly soft and begins to give off its delightful fragrance. Then is the time to eat and enjoy it.

Give Feijoa a good loam soil rich in humus, with good drainage. Although the plant is quite drought-resistant, it will do better with liberal supplies of water. It is reasonably frost-hardy, takes the sun very well, and is attacked by very few insects, and by no fungus diseases, so far as is known. Furthermore, it thrives exceedingly well in our area, seeming to prefer our mild climate to almost any other type of climate in the world.

If you want healthy, vigorous plants, invest in the soil, in humus, mulches and soil conditioners. Good growth depends upon good roots, and roots can be no better than the soil.



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Potpourri

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• Far East Tour

An 18-day horticultural tour, "Journey through the Gardens of Japan," will depart San Francisco on September 15. The itinerary includes one week in Tokyo, a day in Nikko National Park, three days in Hakone National Park, and one week touring Kyoto, Nara, Osaka and Toba.

Glenn Lemon, of San Francisco, will lead the tour. Time will be allotted to individual and group meetings with various floral societies. A meeting also is scheduled with the Dean of Agriculture of Kyoto University concerning his study of the germination of cymbidiums.

All-inclusive tour cost from San Francisco is \$1248.50. A folder giving complete details may be obtained from British Overseas Airways, 530 Fifth Ave., New York 36, N. Y., or from any BOAC district office.

• Blooming Balboa Park

August

El Prado—Begonias
Alcazar Garden—Zinnias
Mall—Petunias
Del Rey Moro—Petunias
South of Organ—Oleanders
Palisades Area—Marigold, Ageratum, Hibiscus
Botanical Building—Gloxinias, Coleus, Begonias, Caladium
Formal—Dahlias, Cannas
Zoo Picnic Area — Chinese Flame Trees

September

El Prado—Begonias
Alcazar Garden—Zinnias
Botanical Building—Gloxinias, Coleus, Begonias, Rubra Lilies
Formal—Roses

• Film for Fall

"Holiday With Flowers," a 30-minute color filmstrip, will be available on a free loan basis beginning in September. Produced by Smithers-Oasis Co., manufacturer of Oasis Floral Foam, the strip offers instructions and ideas for creating unusual Christmas flower arrangements and decorations.

A narrative is provided on a 33-1/3 RPM recording. The viewer supplies only a 35 mm filmstrip projector, screen and record player.

Individuals or groups may reserve the film, free of charge, by writing Smithers-Oasis, Box 118, Kent, Ohio. Both the scheduled showing date and an alternate should be included.

• Local Rose Food

Country Squire Fertilizer, a local firm headed by Frank Quintana, has compounded a rose food listing 8-8-8 plus trace elements. Prior to marketing, the product is being tested by the San Diego Rose Society on a section of the rose garden in Balboa Park.

AWARDS

• Fair Trophy

Walter Andersen, veteran San Diego nurseryman, is the first winner of a new annual award from the San Diego County Fair.

The grand trophy award went to Andersen as "the individual who has contributed most to the success of the flower show." Andersen has participated in the fair's flower show every year since it began 17 years ago.

• Man of the Year Plus

Warren F. Purdy of Purdy and Fitzpatrick, San Diego landscape contractors, was named Man of the Year by the California Landscape Contractors Association at its June convention in San Diego. The firm of Purdy and Fitzpatrick received the association's Industrial Award trophy for the Grossmont Shopping Center as the best landscaping of an industrial project in the state. The Center landscaping was designed by Gustav J. Molnar of the landscape design firm of Fitzpatrick, Molnar and Purdy.

Second place in the statewide competition for landscaping of residential estates (homes \$50,000 and over) went to Sequoia Landscape Company, another San Diego firm, for the E. V. Christensen home in Rancho Santa Fe. This design also was done by Molnar.

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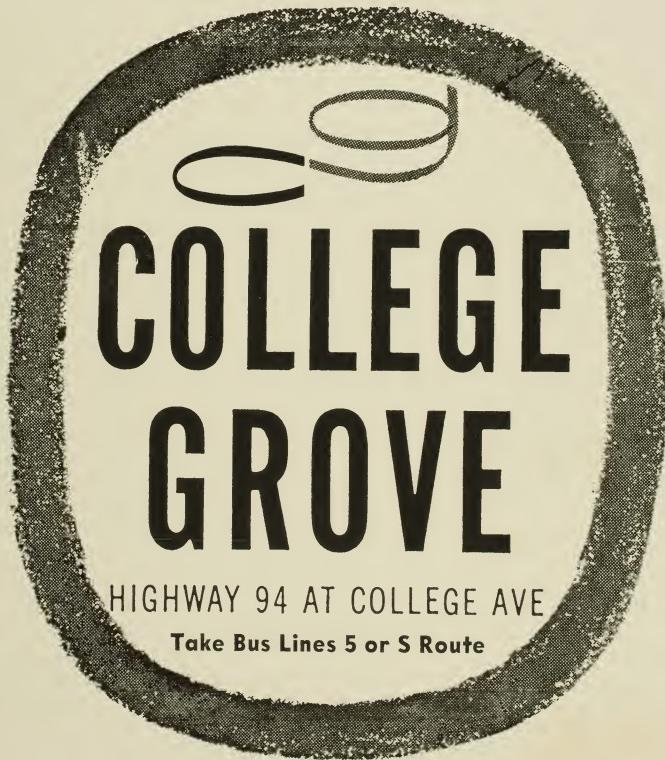
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